GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2117
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
REHABILITATION OF ANIMALS IN CIRCUSES
PATY RIPPLE KYNDIAH

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that small time circus companies in the small towns and villages are still engaging wild animals for exhibition and performance in their shows;

(b) if so, the details of cases which have come to the notice of the Government during the past two years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for their rehabilitation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) to (c) Pursuant to the ban imposed by the Central Government on performance of five species of wild animals by circuses, the Government of India requested the Chief Wildlife Wardens of the States to cancel the ownership certificates issued to circuses with respect to five species. 234 animals belonging to the five species from twenty-two circuses have been seized and rehabilitated at 5 rescue centers established by Government of India. Central Government has provided financial assistance of Rs.248 lakhs to the States concerned for feeding and health care of the animals rehabilitated at these rescue centers.